

REMARKS

Please reconsider the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for carefully considering this application.

Disposition of Claims

Claims 2, 4-20, and 30-35 are currently pending in this application. Claims 30, 31, 34, and 35 are independent. The remaining claims depend, directly or indirectly, from claims 30 and 31.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 2, 4-10, 12, 14-18, and 30-35 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,178,242 ("Tsuria"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

With respect to the rejection of the claims, Tsuria is not valid prior art to this application. As evidenced by the attached affidavit under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131, the present invention was conceived prior to the effective 102(e) date of Tsuria, and subsequently constructively reduced to practice with due diligence exercised by the inventors. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 11, 13, 19, and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tsuria in view of European Patent No. 714,204 ("Park"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As described above, Tsuria is not valid prior art to this application. As evidenced by the attached affidavit under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131, the present invention was conceived prior to the effective 102(e) date of Tsuria, and subsequently constructively reduced to practice with due diligence exercised by the inventors. Further, Park alone does not supply that which Tsuria lacks. Park relates to protecting digital video systems from illegal users viewing or copying the systems. Park discloses using a descrambling method that decrypts split keystreams of data using a smart card. Specifically, Park discloses splitting scrambled data into a bitstream and a

keystream, recording the scrambled data on a recording medium by encrypting the split keystream and mixing the encrypted keystream with the bitstream. However, Park fails to disclose or suggest all of the subject matter of claim 1 and 9. Namely, Park fails to disclose or suggest two levels of encrypting, where the key used to encrypt digital information is also encrypted using a separate key.

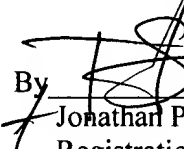
In view of the above, it is clear that Park alone fails to render independent claims 30 and 31 as obvious. Dependent claims 11, 13, 19, and 20 are patentable over Park for at least the same reasons. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Applicant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 1134/023001).

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Respectfully submitted,

By  #45,079
Jonathan P. Osha THOMAS SCHERER
Registration No.: 33,986
Osha & May L.L.P.
1221 McKinney, Suite 2800
Houston, Texas 77010
(713) 228-8600
(713) 228-8778 (Fax)